

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 IO-14

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR/REG:FCRUMP:MLF

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH

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EUR/RPM:GHELMAN

PM/DCA:CFLOWERREE

NSC:MHIGGINS

C:NTERRELL

OSD/ISA:LMICHAEL

JCS:COL. LAFFERTY

S/S-WHLUERS

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P R 100018Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

U NMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 175188

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PARM,NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: FLANK SECURITY

REFS: A) NATO 4277 B) NATO 4144 C) 4122

D) STATE 151563 E) NATO 4214

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1. WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO FRG FORMULATION (PARA 3, REF A), WHICH HAS ADVANTAGE OF SEPARATING FLANK ISSUE FROM GENERAL QUESTION OF NON-CIRCUMVENTION (SEE PARA 2 BELOW). IF YOU SHOULD JUDGE IT POSSIBLE TO FORM A CONSENSUS AROUND THIS FORMULATION YOU SHOULD ENCOURAGE ITS ACCEPTANCE. HOWEVER SINCE EITHER THE FRG OR BELGIAN APPROACH IS ACCEPTABLE TO US, AND IN VIEW OF DESIRABILITY OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE QUESTION, YOU MAY SUPPORT BELGIAN ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE IN REF C (LESS "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY") AND A CHAPEAU STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION (E.G. REDEPLOYMENT OF FORCES) INFRINGING EITHER THE SPIRIT OR THE LETTER OF THE AGREEMENT. WHILE WE CAN ACCEPT THIS APPROXIMATE LANGUAGE FOR AHG USE AS DESCRIBED IN REF C (SECTION III D) WE REMAIN UNCOMMITTED AS TO ULTIMATE FORM AND PLACEMENT OF PROVISIONS IN EVENTUAL TREATY. IN OUR VIEW THE CHAPEAU SENTENCE, IN COMBINATION WITH THE BELGIAN ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION, WOULD PROTECT THE BASIC INTERESTS OF THE FLANK STATES WITHOUT COMPROMISING ESSENTIAL ALLIED FREEDOM OF ACTION.

2. WE STRONGLY PREFER DELETION OF THE DUTCH BRACKETED LANGUAGE DESIGNED TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE IS PAPER SOVIET DEPLOYMENTS NEAR THE NGA. WE AGREE THAT LARGE DEPLOYMENTS OF SOVIET FORCES IN AREAS WHERE THEY COULD BE QUICKLY BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THE REDUCTIONS AREA COULD CONSTITUTE CIRCUMVENTION OF THE AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THIS IS A SEPARATE QUESTION AND SHOULD BE LOOKED AT IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL CIRCUMVENTION PROBLEM. IN THIS CONNECTION THE BRACKETED LANGUAGE INCLUDED BY DUTCH MIGHT BE MILEADING. FURTHERMORE, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT A PREMATURE EXPRESSION OF ALLIED INTEREST IN INHIBITING SOVIET ACTIONS IN THE WESTERN USSR COULD GIVE RISE TO EASTERN SUSPICIONS ABOUT ALLIED INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD WHICH WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

3. SECTION I OF THE IS PAPER SHOULD BE AMENDED BY INSERTING "POSSIBLE" BETWEEN "ONE" AND "EXCEPTION" TO REFLECT FACT THAT WG DID NOT REACH A CONSENSUS ON MEASURE 6. KISSINGER

SECRET

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